Status of the implementation of the recommendations contained in The Second Report of The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, in pursuance of direction of the hon. Chairman, Rajya Sabha published in the Rajya Sabha Parliamentary Bulletin Part-II, dated September 28, 2004, I am making another statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Labour on Demands for Grants (2004-2005) of the Ministry of Textiles. The recommendations of the Committee mainly relate to increase the allocation of funds and utilization thereof in respect of various developmental and welfare schemes and intensification of existing schemes in order to increase productivity and to improve quality in various segments under the Ministry of Textiles. The Ministry of Textiles is making all efforts in this regard to implement the recommendations of the Committee in true spirit.

I also lay herewith the recommendation-wise status of implementation on the Table of the House.

Signing of Memorandum of Understanding on Ken-Betwa Link

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, the great son of India, former Union Irrigation Minister, late Dr. K.L. Rao, dreamt of linking the rivers of the country. However, it could not materialise. The late Prime Minister, Bharat Ratna, Smt. Indira Gandhiji did not allow the dream of Dr. K.L. Rao to die. In 1980, under her leadership, the National Perspective Plan was conceived envisaging transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins and in 1982, the Central Government, through a Resolution, constituted a society known as the National Water Development Agency (NWDA). To study the feasibility of the interlinking of rivers proposals suggested in the NPP. The late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhiji desired to identify the links both in the Himalayan and in the Peninsular Zones and directed NWDA to take a leading role. The NWDA began their task of identifying the links since late 1980s and identified 30 links, 16 under Peninsular component and 14 under Himalayan component for preparation of feasibility reports in line with the proposal of NPP. Meanwhile, during a hearing in a PIL in the hon. Supreme Court during the tenure of the NDA Government on a different issue of Yamuna river's pollution, the *amicus curie* requested the hon. Court to give